

LOCOMOTIVE BLASTS

Operator Elliott and wife returned Thursday from the home of the bridegroom they have been spending their honeymoon.

Operator Duvall, who has been working nights in the telegraph office here for some time, is now working in the dispatcher's office as night copier.

Copier Flynn, who has been working nights in the dispatcher's office has left the service to seek a position with another road.

Operator Grasty went to Morton's Saturday night to visit relatives.

Frank Sweeney says Andy Corbett came near losing a hat in an argument with the trainmaster regarding the movement of trains.

Supervisor Edmondson says it is no uncommon thing for the switch at Henderson to be run through. If some of the road men don't run through it the switch engine will. But we all know Bill and will have to take a little salt with that statement.

Dispatcher Brownlie left for Birmingham, Ala., Saturday where he will be located in future as a trick dispatcher for the L. & N. Mr. Brownlie was well liked here by officials and employees and is a first-class dispatcher. While we dislike very much to lose him, still we are glad to know he has bettered his condition.

Copier Scott will take the position left vacant by Mr. Brownlie. Mr. Scott has had considerable experience along this line and will no doubt make a good man for the place.

Red Morgan has filled out that well known form (71) and will in the near future be giving some eagle-eye instructions where to head in.

The glorious Fourth will soon be here and we want to see all the railroad boys show their patriotism by going to the picnic at Lakeside Park on that day and filling up on pink lemonade and barbecue.

Some of the boys say Operator Elliott is a better man since he has taken unto himself a wife. He has better control of his temper.

It is now up to Willie Sheridan to invest in a Panama hat.

Superintendent John W. Logsdon passed through on his way south last Thursday.

President Jere Baxter of the Tennessee Central, says that the contract for building the proposed connection to the Illinois Central near Gracey or Hopkinsville will be let in two weeks.

The Nashville & Lewisburg Railway Co. will, it is stated, immediately begin a preliminary survey from Nashville to Lewisburg. Robert L. Lund will be the engineer in charge. Dr. J. P. Sheppard is president of the Lewisburg Company.

The contract for building the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad extension from Whitehouse, Ky., to the breaks of the Big Sandy river in Virginia, has been awarded, it is reported, to Langhorn & Langhorn of Richmond, Va. C. E. Doyle is general manager; office at Richmond.

It is reported that Mr. R. M. Slater, the popular L. & N. agent, has received a flattering offer from the Southern railway and may accept it. Mr. Slater has been in the service of the L. & N. sixteen years. His Hopkinsville friends hope the road will make it to his interest to stay here.

DOWN IN THE MINES.

At the beginning of the Pennsylvania mines strike, Mitchell boasted openly of the financial strength of the U. M. W. and that they had been making preparation for some time. Now, to show how badly he was deceived or else tried to deceive others, the Illinois fund, which was hoarded up by the U. M. W. solely for the benefit, mostly, of the officials and agitators, has been reduced to the amount of \$50,000, said amount, they say, having been paid into the treasury of that order at Indianapolis last week for the benefit of the national fund, which has evidently been drained by those now in want in the East, occasioned by Mitchell's fool order's to quit work. Few believe that such an amount was paid in cash by the U. M. W. of Illinois. But, instead, a levy of that amount was made on the miners of that state to keep up the strike in the East, where a surplus of several million dollars has already been squandered on a lost cause, while Mitchell continues to encourage the strikers by false statements in part, if railroad officials can be believed, as they claim that in a late statement made by him the truth was handled very carelessly.

Foreman Toombs informs us that present prospects indicate that for the next few months he and his crew will be kept busy making some needed improvements at the Victoria mine.

The storm of last Saturday night blew down the large smoke stack at the Arnold mine and necessitated the working of D. W. Umstead and crew Sunday raising the same. Only small damage to the stack was done.

James Kelley says that to save a long walk to work he will soon move back to the Media mine, where he is employed. There are few more faithful workers than he is.

Of course Barnaby, president of the U. M. W. of this district, long ago recognized the fact that the cause which he represents meets with no favor in this district, and no doubt he would secretly inform you, if he could consistently, that he has no hopes of ever accomplishing anything for his order in this region outside of probably persuading a few farmers to join and thereby show some growth. With these facts staring him in the face, it seems from reports at hand that he is endeavoring, if possible, to thereafter shift the responsibility of the failure to organize, and therefore hit upon the plan to have the four counties wherein exists any opposition to the order and where up to this date they have failed to organize cut off from the district which he represents, or rather, made a district by themselves, and new men put in charge to act as scapegoats for him. Barnaby may be unscrupulous, but he is no fool, and wants to make a record some way, and if possible escape the censure due him and others for the great failure they have made in this district by their incapacity to make honest and industrious miners believe in the false doctrines they preach. To show what desperate straights he is in, we cite the fact that a few days ago he went to Henderson, where he found a few once-union miners at work and succeeded, so he reported through the papers, in organizing the mine under an agreement with the operators. At this mine the operators we

believe are indifferent, caring little whether or not the mine is run; in fact, but very little coal is mined there at any season of the year. The coal consumers of Henderson are compelled to look to mines outside the county for fuel and the organization of this mine, while claimed as a victory for Barnaby, makes no change in the situation.

That a good reputation and name will cling to a man, no matter where he may go, was plainly illustrated last week, when the president of the St. Bernard Mining Company, Mr. J. B. Atkinson, made a trip to Providence, where his appearance aroused the love and esteem the miners have for him and he was immediately besieged by those who considered it a pleasure to work his management, all wanting to be employed by him if he should take a notion to operate mines in that region.

Long ago the U. M. W. said it would stop the St. Bernard Mining Company from paying their employees a dividend by closing down the mines, and yet the dividend is paid and the mines continue to run and prosperity is seen on all hands. Last Saturday was another dividend day, and it was certainly a pleasure to see the beaming faces of the miners as they came forth from the pay office with that reward of merit their employers had through generosity given them. Such tokens of good will are one of the strong ties that bind the employer and employee so closely together.

Supt. Crutchfield has been quite sick the past week or two, but at this writing we understand he is better. Barton applies himself so closely to work that a few weeks of rest and recreation are needed to build up his system.

Secretary George C. Atkinson was called to Louisville last week on a business and pleasure trip combined. One thing is certain—the St. Bernard Mining Company will either be compelled to keep George at home or enlarge their capacity for coal production, as his absence generally means more orders.

A handful of the U. M. W. tried to hold a meeting at a private residence here last week, but as the food and rent supply has been about cut off entirely, they have but little to talk about, and there are but few here to even talk. Their leaders have long ago forsaken them and none are left to comfort them even by false promises.

The Seabee Coal Company feel proud over the good record they are now making in the production of coal, having last Friday loaded ten cars in half a day, which means twenty cars per day, a record to be proud of. Most of the miners there were green men when the U. M. W. attempted to close the mines down by a strike, and now they are both willing and more capable of producing coal than the gang they succeeded.

The operators of the anthracite coal fields are daily improving their output by the addition of new men, and now they boast of the claims that all the men needed to work their mines at full force can be secured. If this is true, what a sad condition is Mitchell responsible for by placing over 100,000 once prosperous

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WHAT ARE THE "INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS" IN THE ANTHRACITE REGION?

Mr. John Mitchell is fond of repeating that the anthracite miners whom he professes to lead and control have entered upon their campaign for the paralysis of industry and the destruction of property as a revolt against "intolerable" conditions. We are expected to infer that something in the treatment or payment of the anthracite miners was so unjust and outrageous that it could not be endured a day longer, but must be forcibly terminated at once, at whatever cost to individual liberty, public order, and hundreds of industries and communities not in any way guilty of the alleged wrong.

But why did Mr. Mitchell, until overruled by a tumultuous opposition, advise that the "intolerable" conditions, to which he now vaguely refers, should be endured? And why did he say that a "small concession" on the part of the operators would have been acceptable, and that his Union had purposely asked more than it expected to get in order to have room for "negotiations"? If the situation was not absolutely intolerable when Mr. Mitchell considered any little concessions as desirable and probably sufficient, and opposed a strike with all his might, what has made it intolerable since? That it is so today, in more respects than one, no one will deny; and since Mr. Mitchell, otherwise so ready to talk, seems to be disinclined to explain in detail his favorite adjective, I will do so for him, by stating the things that are "intolerable" at this time in the region over which he rules.

1. Terrorism is intolerable. This factor began its work before the Hazleton convention. Terrorized miners absented themselves from that convention, or abstained from resisting its headlong course. Terrorized shopkeepers are giving credit to irresponsible strikers. Terrorized women and children are daily persuading husbands and fathers to surrender to the mob, in order that their homes and families may be spared from insult, violence and murder. Terrorized town-officers are winking at lawless outrages. Terrorized school trustees are permitting young women who are teachers in the public schools to be persecuted because they have relations who still earnestly desire, and feebly endeavor, to exercise the rights of freemen. Terrorized politicians are devising ways of conciliation and compromise with disorder. Terrorized citizens are submitting for a brief period of bewilderment—not, I believe, forever—to the silent and passive encouragement of wrong, under the threats of the boycott. And, finally, these things are practically encouraged by those who have not the excuse of fear, but are either seekers for temporary popularity, or superficial students of "social reform." Indeed, Mr. Mitchell, all this is intolerable; and the world is indebted to those who are now on strike against it.

2. Striking is intolerable. Industrial work can be thoroughly done only when the employee is either the slave of his employer, or a free man, capable of making, and responsible for keeping, a contract with his employer.

The first condition has been tried and found wanting in this country. Apart from all moral considerations, slavery is unanimously admitted to be a bad system, economically; and it would still be so if the slave were held in bondage with his own consent.

The second is the system of contract, under which the individual makes and keeps his own agreement. It is perfectly consistent with this system that individuals should form associations, and deal through these with other individuals or associations, provided there be, somewhere, a legal responsibility for promises made.

But there is a tertium quid, hotly recommended by shrewd interested and silly disinterested parties, under which the employee is the slave, not of the employer, but of a third party, namely an unincorporated "organization," which makes and breaks promises for him, and forbids him to seek special advantage by private agreement, based upon his personal ability to do better work, or equally good work at a

lower price, than others. He is not altogether a willing slave; in many cases he can refuse to wear the badge of servitude only by risking his livelihood and the peace and comfort of his family. And his organized master is incapable of making a legally binding contract, either with him or his employer.

Of all conceivable systems of industry, this is the worst. And one of its worst features is its deliberate denial of any obligation towards the employer, as regards the efficiency of the employee.

It has been my chief occupation for thirty-five years to promote, both in professional practice and through technical literature, the improvement, in economy and in safety, of American methods of mining; and I have yet to hear of the first instance in which a Miners' Union has not opposed such an improvement, or in which such a Union has given the slightest attention to the instruction of its own members in their professed business. Their "lecturers" lecture on strikes and boycotts, not on drilling and stopping; and their one eternal theme and purpose is, how to get more and give less for it. They prohibit the training of apprentices; they fight trade-schools; they oppose benefit-funds and reading rooms because, as one of their members once frankly said to me, "such things tend to make workmen contented, and disinclined to strike—and that is what we do not want!"; and they maintain throughout the nation that, as between "labor" and "capital," the period of a strike is war, justifying all the ethics of war, while the period of peace is simply an armed truce, during which preparation is to be made for another war.

What wonder that, in those mining camps in which such unions are absolutely dominant, mining practice is conspicuously bad? What wonder that, in British Columbia, the largest mines of the Rossland District were closed, not on account of the "eight-hour day," but because it was impossible to get an honest day's work of no matter how few hours? What wonder that, in the anthracite regions, since the "concession" of 1900, the average day's work of a man (then already small enough, as all mining engineers know) has been still further reduced by 12 per cent? During this period of "peace," over 100 strikes (which Mr. Mitchell is understood to say he had no right to prevent, because they were "local") have emphasized the fact that no workman—not even a breaker-boy—could be discharged for inefficiency or disobedience of orders without incurring the instant wrath of "organized labor." The reply, made to a distasteful order:—"Go to—; you ain't my boss; John Mitchell, of Indianapolis, is my boss!" is not an imagined situation.

Yes, Mr. Mitchell, this is "intolerable!"

3. Hypocrisy is intolerable. The deliberate attempt to prevent the simple protection of property against fire and flood, and the brazen appeal to persons not members of the Mine Workers' Union to betray their trusts, and abandon the interests in their charge; the threat of coercing the innocent public into an alliance with lawlessness by depriving it of any other fuel than that which mobs will not permit to be mined;—these things agree but poorly with the disapproval of disorder and outraged professed by the men who practically invited such results. The tardy arrival of Union officials, to persuade a mob "not to do so any more, this time;" the pretence that assassins are going to be rigorously hunted up, or down; in short, all the highly decorous protests of the ringleaders of the trouble (including the chief who tried to prevent it, but couldn't) are somewhat nauseating to those who remember how the "Mollie Maguires" maintained a similar bureau of condemnation for crime, until the gallows put an end to their interviews and speeches and proclamations. When a criminal has once been caught, through the efforts of the Union, expelled from their ranks for his crime, and thereafter black-listed, as people are who have committed no crime, it will be time to recognize the good faith—as distin-

guished from good policy—of the love of order now so prominently paraded. When that time comes, Mr. Mitchell, you will not find it necessary to denounce the presence of policemen, simply guarding life and property against the crime which you sincerely detest; for they will be your allies.

Another piece of intolerable hypocrisy is the talk about "the eight-hour day," as a pretext for the original strike, and for several high-handed orders, since issued to members and non-members of the Union alike. The transparent and audacious humbug of this pretense requires for exposure a separate article.

4. Reckless and unnecessary destruction of the resources of the United States is intolerable. I do not refer here to the wanton injury of collieries by depriving them of protection from flood and fire, which I have already mentioned, but to the irrevocable waste of coal in mining, which capitalists and engineers have been for many years striving to diminish. To this endeavor, the chief obstacle is the attitude and the demands of the Miners' Unions, both East and West. But this subject also requires a separate treatment; and I pass it here with a single observation, namely:

Mr. Mitchell and his organization are now engaged in inflicting temporarily upon the citizens of New York and other Atlantic cities what they would have to endure permanently if bituminous coal were their only available fuel, or if the supply of anthracite were so far impaired as to make it economically unavailable for manufacturing purposes, in competition with bituminous coal. Now, the day when this condition must arrive will be hastened by the waste, and postponed by the saving, attendant upon the mining of anthracite. If "organized labor" insists upon methods which waste that precious and limited supply, it is striking a blow at the comfort and prosperity of our great Eastern cities, which their inhabitants ought to condemn and resist. This, I undertake to say, it is now doing.

5. The list of intolerable conditions might be further extended; but I will mention only one more today. Mr. John Mitchell, I am sorry to say that you are yourself rapidly becoming intolerable. It is a pity; for you were born for better things. But you were neither good enough nor bad enough to be a dictator; you know too much, and too little, to direct a movement which you did not and do not approve, and which you now think, as you thought when it began, will not succeed. You are forced, step by step, to measure which you did not anticipate, and do not like. Your followers do not trust you, and will be very likely to turn and rend you, after they have crowded you to defeat. Potent to initiate mischief, but impotent to stop it, you are already reduced to the function of issuing optimistic bulletins, "while you wait." Such a futile figurehead cannot long be recognized as a dictator. Mr. Nichols, of Scranton, may get out of this strike the object for which he is reported to have precipitated it against your protest, namely, his re-election in July as the President of his district. Possibly one or two other "local" leaders may secure the satisfaction of their local ambitions. For these men, I claim the credit of the attack for themselves, and lay the blame of defeat upon you, as their halfhearted and incompetent leader. It will not do, Mr. Mitchell, to be simply tolerable.—The Engineering and Mining Journal.

R. W. RAYMOND.

PROF. COX ENTERTAINS.

Another Musical to be Given at Temple Theatre, Friday night, July 11.

Prof. R. G. Cox, the well known musical director, will give another of his delightful musicals at Temple Theatre, Friday night, July 11. It will be composed of home talent and 40 children, including all the best adult singers in our city, will take part in it. The public is assured it will be the richest thing that Prof. Cox has ever undertaken and any one attending will be fully repaid. The prices are moderate, being 10 and 25 cents, and can be found for sale by the little girls of Earlinton, who have a great incentive to sell them as the reward is a nice gold watch costing \$15 to be given to the one who sells the most tickets. The contest for the watch begins Friday morning. Look out for the little ticket sellers and have your pocket book ready.